

News from U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC)
Tuesday, April 2, 2002 – For Immediate Release
Contact: Chuck Fant, 202-225-5501

Spratt to Present Purple Heart to Clover WWII Veteran

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) will present the Purple Heart Medal of Honor to a Clover man who was wounded while serving as a Marine during the Occupation of North China just after World War II.

Walter L. Wright was a private in the U.S. Marine Corps on June 28, 1946, when he and 14 other Marines were ambushed by guerilla forces. Three Marines were killed and 12 wounded in the attack. Wright suffered a gunshot wound to the thigh and was later diagnosed with malaria. He continued to serve as a Rifleman in the Marine Corps, retiring as a corporal in 1948.

“Although World War II was over by the time Walter Wright was wounded, we learned recently that he might still be eligible for a Purple Heart,” said Spratt. “I contacted the Navy, and in reviewing his case, I discovered he was not only eligible, he greatly deserved the medal.”

Spratt will present the Purple Heart to Wright at 3:00 p.m., Saturday, April 6, in a ceremony at the Clover National Guard Armory.

#